Application No.: 10/617,786

Amendment dated: December 23, 2004

Reply to Office Action of: August 3, 2004

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1 5 (Canceled)
- 6. (New) A break apart bicycle comprising:
- (a) a front frame section including a head tube, a fork, two handle bars, a front wheel releasably coupled to the fork by a first quick release, a crossbar, a down tube extending rearwardly and obliquely from the head tube, and a joint tube at a rear end of the crossbar;
- (b) a rear frame section including two foot pedals, a sprocket wheel having a front axle, a bottom bracket coupled to the foot pedals and front axle of the sprocket wheel, and a chain stay extending rearwardly from the bottom bracket to an axle of a rear wheel:
- (c) a sleeve extending forwardly and obliquely from the bottom bracket, the sleeve having an upper end for receiving a lower portion of the down tube therein, the sleeve including at least one longitudinal slit at the upper end thereof and a second quick release for coupling the lower portion of the down tube within the upper end of the sleeve by temporarily deforming the at least one longitudinal slit;
- (d) a seat post having a top saddle at an upper portion thereof and a lower portion, the joint tube including an upper end provided with at least one longitudinal slot for receiving the lower portion of the seat post therein, a third quick release for coupling the lower portion of the seat post to the upper end of the joint tube by temporarily deforming the at least one longitudinal slit; and
- (e) a seat tube extending upwardly from the bottom bracket and having an upper end provided with at least one longitudinal slit for receiving a lower portion of the joint tube therein, and a fourth quick release for coupling the lower portion of the joint tube

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within the upper end of the seat tube by temporarily deforming the at least one longitudinal slit.

- 7. (New) The break apart bicycle of claim 6 wherein each of the sleeve and down tubes includes a radial aperture formed therein, and further including a safety pin insertable through the radial apertures for securing the sleeve and down tubes together.
  - 8. (New) A break apart bicycle comprising:
- (a) a front frame section including a head tube, a fork, two handle bars, a front wheel releasably coupled to the fork by a first quick release, a crossbar, a down tube extending rearwardly and obliquely from the head tube, and a joint tube at a rear end of the crossbar;
- (b) a rear frame section including two foot pedals, a sprocket wheel having a front axle, a bottom bracket coupled to the foot pedals and front axle of the sprocket wheel, and a chain stay extending rearwardly from the bottom bracket to an axle of a rear wheel;
- (c) a sleeve extending forwardly and obliquely from the bottom bracket, the sleeve having an upper end for receiving a lower portion of the down tube therein, the sleeve including at least one longitudinal slit at the upper end thereof and a second quick release for coupling the lower portion of the down tube within the upper end of the sleeve by temporarily deforming the at least one longitudinal slit;
- (d) a seat post having a top saddle at an upper portion thereof and a lower portion, the joint tube including an upper end provided with at least one longitudinal slot for receiving the lower portion of the seat post therein, a third quick release for coupling the lower portion of the seat post to the upper end of the joint tube by temporarily deforming the at least one longitudinal slit; and
- (e) a seat tube extending upwardly from the bottom bracket and having an upper end provided with an external threaded section, the joint tube including a lower end provided with an annular flange, and a union nut having an internal threaded section

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for clinging to the flange and threaded engagement with the external threaded section to form a fourth quick release for coupling the lower end of the joint tube with the upper end of the seat tube.

9. (New) The break apart bicycle of claim 8 wherein each of the sleeve and down tubes includes a radial aperture formed therein, and further including a safety pin insertable through the radial apertures for securing the sleeve and down tubes together.